

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SANA 02485 020936Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 /015 W  
-----038678 021132Z /13

R 020800Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1662

UNCLAS SANA 2485

FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SCUL, YE  
SUBJECT: ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN YEMEN

1. WOULD YOU PLEASE CONTACT GORDON HODGSON AT 3034 BEECH-  
WOOD LANE, FALLS CHURCH VAN VIRGINIA AND INFORM HIM THAT HIS  
LETTER OF JUNE 21 JUST ARRIVED. ASSURE HIM THAT THE  
EMBASSY AND I ARE PREPARED TO HELP IN ANY WAY THAT WE CAN  
TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS BETWEEN THE YEMBCI GOVERNMENT AND  
THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF MAN (AFSM) CON-  
CERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN  
YEMEN AS WELL AS MAJOR EXCAVATIONS IN THE COUNTRY.

2. BEFORE CONTACTING THE YEMENI GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER,  
I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THE SURVEY WILL COVER THE ENTIRE  
COUNTRY AND IF THE AFSM IS PREPARED TO COVER ALL THE EXPENSES  
OF SUCH A SURVEY AS WELL AS ANY SUBSEQUENT ARCHEOLOGICAL  
EXCAVATIONS. ALSO IS THE AFSM PREPARED TO OFFER ANY  
TRAINING, SCHOLARSHIPS OR FELLOWSHIPS FOR YEMENIS?  
(SUCH AN OFFER WOULD MAKE AN AFSM PROPOSAL EVEN MORE  
ATTRACTIVE TO THE YEMENI GOVERNMENT.)

3. FINALLY WOULD HE PROVIDE ME WITH ALL PERTINENT FACTS  
ON THE ALLEGATION THAT ARTIFACTS WERE SMUGGLED OUT OF  
MARIB DURING THE WENDELL PHILLIPS EXPEDITION. THIS  
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STORY CONTINUES TO BE BELIEVED AND IN FACT THE YEMENI  
GOVERNMENT IS DEMANDING THE RETURN OF THESE OBJECTS  
WHICH THEY CONSIDER WERE STOLEN. I WOULD LIKE TO BE IN  
A POSITION TO DISABUSE THE YEMENIS ON THIS SUBJECT RIGHT  
FROM THE OUTSET. OTHERWISE I DOUBT THE YEMENI GOVERNMENT  
WILL COOPERATED.

4. I HOPE IN A FEW DAYS TO BE ABLE TO INFORM MR.  
HODGSON WHEN HE SHOULD TRAVEL TO YEMEN. IN THE MEAN-  
TIME HE SHOULD CONTACT MAGUIRE GIBSON OF THE O  
IENTAL  
INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, WHO WAS IN YEMEN  
LAST SPRING AND WHO IS ALSO INTERESTED IN INITIATING  
ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN YEMEN. (APART FROM CHICAGO, I  
KNOW OF NO OTHER INSTITUTIONS, AMERICAN OR EUROPEAN,  
WHICH ARE CONSIDERING ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEYS OR EXCAVATIONS  
IN YEMEN AT THIS TIME.) AS A LAYMAN IT WOULD APPEAR TO  
ME THAT COOPERATION AMONG VARIOUS AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS  
WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ARCHEOLOGY  
AND SCIENCE AS WELL AS TO ASSURE THAT THE BEST POSSIBLE  
ADVANTAGE IS TAKEN OF WHAT ARE ALWAYS LIMITED RESOURCES  
SCOTES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARCHEOLOGY, STUDIES  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Subject:** ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN YEMEN  
**TAGS:** SCUL, YE  
**To:** STATE  
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